

Boys and Girls Club Gymnasium Renovation (\$100,000). I would ban earmarks as we know them, but as long as these earmarks are available, I'm going to apply for them in an effort to pursue federal funding opportunities for my district. For non-defense projects in the current earmarking system, I work closely with local governments, civic organizations, non-profits and business development authorities to identify and prioritize projects important to local communities in Georgia's Eighth Congressional District (and sometimes elsewhere). I only request funds for projects authorized by law for federal funding and do not do so for private parties or entities. The project will expand and renovate a Boys and Girls Club gym that will serve as a youth facility to host after school and summer programs. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will promote and enhance the development of boys and girls by instilling a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging and influence. Beneficiary: Boys and Girls Clubs of the Middle Georgia Region, 5005 5th Avenue, Eastman, GA 31023.